

## History of PAL - Durham

The Durham Police Department started its PALs program in 2010 as crime prevention initiative. PAL is a citywide program that targets youth who reside in North East Central Durham (NECD). PAL helps to foster and maintain mentoring relationships between police officers and youth (and their families) who reside in the city's most challenging neighborhoods.

In 2013 DPD's PAL program served over 900 Durham children.



*“Studies have shown that if a young person respects a police officer on the ball field, gym or classroom, the youth will likely come to respect the laws that police officers enforce. Such respect is beneficial to the youth, the police officer, the neighborhood and the business community.”*

— National PAL Organization



For more information about the Durham Police Department's PAL Program contact the -

Community Services Division

**Officer Erwin Baker**

**919-560-4404, extension 29400.**

**[Erwin.Baker@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Erwin.Baker@durhamnc.gov)**

Also visit the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. at **[www.nationalpal.org](http://www.nationalpal.org)**

The Durham Police Department is an internationally accredited law enforcement agency.

Visit **[www.durhampolice.com](http://www.durhampolice.com)**



## Police Athletic League



***Coaching Kids to Win in Life...***

## PAL: Coaching Kids to Win in Life...



In the Durham Police Department Police Athletic League (PAL) a *conviction* means only one thing to officers - influencing kids to do what's right in life. Using sports as a platform, police officers serve as volunteer coaches to promote positive attitude, team work, overcoming challenges and good citizenship among Durham youth. It is designed as a youth crime prevention program that utilizes sports and recreational activities to create trust and understanding between police officers and youth.

# Police Athletic League



## PAL Activities

DPD's PAL offers activities for youth participants and adult volunteers of all ages. Currently, PAL's athletics heavily targets elementary age children as grade schools generally do not offer organized sports teams. The program operates throughout the year as follows:

### Sports

- Winter Basketball (1st-5th grades)
- Spring Baseball (1st -5th grades)
- Summer Basketball (ages 15-18)
- Fall Soccer (1st -5th grades)

### Recreational/Educational

- All Year Police Explorers (ages 14-20)

## PAL Enrollment

The permission of a parent or legal guardian is required for PAL participants. Spring Baseball and Summer Basketball have open enrollment each season. Registration for Fall Soccer and Winter Basketball is handled through the participating elementary schools each season.

## PAL Staff

The PAL program is housed within DPD's Community Services Division. Two Community Liaison Officers have been allocated to run PAL, as well as other community outreach initiatives. The Community Liaison Officers also enlist volunteers—officers and citizens - to serve in various capacities.

## PAL Volunteers, Requirements

Volunteers and team parents support PAL by providing snacks, cheerleading, coaching, running time, keeping score and managing the field/court.

A citizen interested in serving as a PAL volunteer must have a clean criminal history. As applicable, DPD or Durham Public Schools conducts criminal backgrounds checks on non-department /non -system personnel who enlist to serve as volunteers.

## PAL Financial Donations are Welcome !

Make checks payable to: Durham Police Department (PAL)

Send to: DPD Grants Manager

505. W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, 27701

